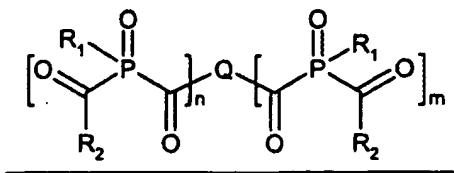


In the Claims:

1-2 (cancelled)

1. ~~8.~~ (currently amended) Process for the preparation of dimer or multimer forms of BAPO compounds of the formula I, according to claim 1.



wherein

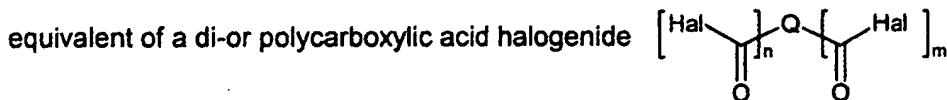
R<sub>1</sub> is unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, benzyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkoxy or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl;

R<sub>2</sub> is unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>aryl;

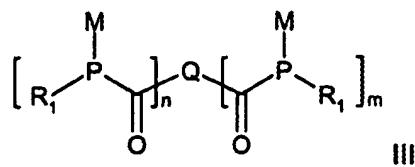
Q is a di-tri or tetravalent arylene residue;

n is 1-4, m is 0-2, n+m is 2, 3 or 4.

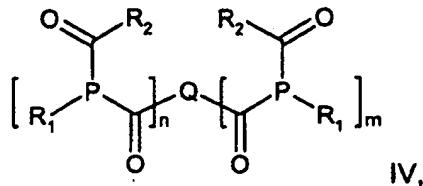
characterized in that (n + m) equivalents of a dimetalated-phosphine R<sub>1</sub>P(M)<sub>2</sub> are reacted with one



to form an intermediate of the formula III



the intermediate III is then reacted with (n + m) equivalents of a further carboxylic acid halide (R<sub>2</sub>-CO-Hal) to form dimer or multimer forms of bisacylphosphine-intermediates of the formula IV



said phosphines IV are then oxidized to form phosphine oxides of the formula I, wherein M is Li, Na or K; and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, Q, n and m are as defined in claim 1.

4-7 (cancelled)

*J* 8. (previously presented) Process according to claim 8, wherein M is Li and wherein the process is carried out in an inert atmosphere at a temperature from -20 to 80°C.

1

9-21 (cancelled)